



IOPC FUNDS' FORMER DIRECTOR LECTURES AT IMLI

IMLI had the honour to host Mr. Måns Jacobsson, former Director of the International Oil Pollution Compensation Funds (IOPC Funds), as a visiting lecturer during its 21st annual LL.M. Programme.

Mr. Jacobsson's lectures form part of the Environmental Law Course of IMLI's LL.M. programme. During his lectures he gave a general presentation of the international liability and compensation regime for pollution damage caused by oil spills from tankers established by the Civil Liability and Fund Conventions which has been in operation for 30 years. He emphasized that in most cases the compensation had been paid within a relatively short period of time after the incident and without the victims having to go to court. He also explained how the IOPC Funds had, in their decisions on the admissibility of compensation claims, contributed to the development and unification of international law.

Mr. Jacobsson also gave a brief overview of the new regime created for compensation for pollution damage caused by spills of bunker oil by the International Convention on Civil Liability for Bunker Oil Pollution Damage, 2001 which had entered into force on 21 November 2008. Highlighting the differences between the new regime established by that Convention and the regime dealing with oil spills from tankers, he stressed the importance of the new regime in view of the experience in recent years that bunker spills can cause considerable pollution damage.

He finally addressed the International Convention on Liability and Compensation for Damage in Connection with the Carriage of Hazardous and Noxious Substances by Sea, 1996 which has not entered into force. He explained the reasons for its non entry into force and dealt with the steps that have been taken recently to develop a Protocol to the Convention (to be considered by a Diplomatic Conference in April, 2010) to overcome the obstacles to its entry into force. He expressed the view that this was probably the last possibility to establish a global regime dealing with liability and compensation issues in this important field.



Mr. Mans Jacobsson and the IMLI class 2009/2010

Mr. Jacobsson was the Director of the International Oil Pollution Compensation Funds from 1985 to 2006. Previously he had performed a legal career in his home country Sweden, first as a judge, and later as legal advisor and eventually as Head of the Department for International Civil Law of the Swedish Ministry of Justice where he was responsible for the preparation of legislation mainly in the fields of transport law, nuclear law and industrial property. He had represented Sweden in negotiations in a number of intergovernmental organisations, in particular in the IMO. He was appointed President of Division of the Stockholm Court of Appeal.

Mr. Jacobsson has published a book on patent law (together with two other co-authors). He has also published numerous articles in various fields of law.

He is member of the Board of Governors of the World Maritime University in Malmö (Sweden). He is also Visiting Professor at that University and at the Maritime Universities in Dalian and Shanghai (Peoples Republic of China), Special Professor at the University of Nottingham (United Kingdom) and Visiting Fellow at the Institute of International Shipping and Trade Law at Swansea University (United Kingdom). He is also a lecturer at the University of Southampton in the United Kingdom, Lund University in Sweden and the Summer Academy organised by the International Foundation for the Law of the Sea in Hamburg (Germany). He is member of the Council of the London Shipping Law Centre.

Mr Jacobsson is associate member of Quadrant Chambers, a set of leading barristers in London specialising in commercial law. He is a Member of the Panel of the Singapore Maritime

Arbitration Centre as well as Member of the International Maritime Conciliation and Mediation Panel. Furthermore, he is a member of the Executive Council of the Comité Maritime International (CMI).

In 2007 the University of Southampton conferred upon him the Honorary Degree of Doctor of Laws.

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